



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AFGHANISTAN

International Marble Conference III

The Afghanistan International Marble and Stone Conference in Hirat Province will bring together investors, experts, and leaders



Photo Credit: Elizabeth Marvin/USAID

“There is a strong resurgence in exploring, identifying, and developing the mineral and hydrocarbons resources of Afghanistan. This development will play a huge function for the long-term economic and social sustainability of the country.”

- Minister of Mines Waheedullah Shahrani

The emerging marble and stone industries of Afghanistan, which can bring value to global investors and wealth to Afghan communities, will be on display at **The Afghanistan International Marble and Stone Conference “Afghanistan’s Resource Advantage,”** sponsored by USAID’s Afghanistan Small and Medium Enterprise Development project, and hosted by the Afghan Marble Industry Association, the Ministry of Mines (MoM), the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. The marble association unites most of the companies that specialize in the quarrying production, as well as on the finished products including the cut and polish of marble in different shapes, sizes, and varieties.

Afghan Minister of Mines Waheedullah Shahrani notes that the country is endowed with vast quantities of copper, iron, coal, marble, precious metals, gemstones and hydrocarbons, which are unique to Afghanistan, though have been underdeveloped due to generations of instability. He said the vision of the MoM “is to be a steward of all mineral and hydrocarbon resources through the implementation of international best practices policies, regulations, and procedures to encourage environmentally and socially acceptable private investment.”

The event, which will take place May 25 through 27 in Hirat Province, is a chance to discover investment and partnership opportunities and learn about trends in the Afghan marble sector. The conference will provide a forum to meet key producers and develop potential joint-venture partnerships. Additionally, the conference will bring together resources on the latest technology equipment and training innovations as well as provide information on the availability of financing and investment support.

For more information, please view the following websites:

<http://www.mom.gov.af/>

<http://www.asmedproject.info/joomla/>

http://trade.gov/afghanistan/doc_afghanistan_events.asp

<http://www.amia.org.af/>

or email: Info@amia.org.af, or call: 0093 (0)77 330 5211